

Application Serial No.: 09/825,470
Amendment and Response to January 7, 2005 Non-Final Office Action

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for managing risk related to a legal action involving a person, the method comprising:

receiving, into a computer memory, digital information ~~into the computer storage~~ identifying a person's status as at least one of: a party to a legal action and an amicus curiae of the court in a pending legal action;

receiving, into the computer memory, digital information ~~into the computer storage~~ relating to details of the legal action;

structuring, with using a computer processor operatively attached to the computer memory, the information-received information relating to details of the legal action according to predetermined criteria;

generating, using the computer processor, a scaled numeric value or a scaled alphanumeric value indicative of an amount of risk associated with the legal action ~~with a computer processor operatively attached to the computer storage, wherein the scaled numeric value or scaled alphanumeric value is based upon at least a portion of the structured information related to a legal action and the gathered data; and~~

generating a report comprising the scaled numeric or alphanumeric value and at least the portion of the structured information upon which the scaled numeric or alphanumeric ~~number value~~ is based.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, additionally further comprising ~~the step of~~

generating a suggested action responsive to the scaled numeric value or a scaled alphanumeric value.

3. (Cancelled)

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4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the suggested action is ~~additionally responsive to the~~ received information ~~received~~ related to details of the legal action.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the suggested action is directed towards reducing a risk related to a legal action.

7. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the suggested action comprises commencing a litigation.

8. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the suggested action comprises entering arbitration.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the suggested action comprises settling a legal action.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the received information ~~received~~ ~~related to details of the legal action~~ comprises a venue for a the legal action.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the received information ~~received~~ is gathered electronically.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~additionally~~ further comprising the step of aggregating scaled numerical or alphanumerical values relating to the

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person and assessing an aggregate level of risk related to multiple legal actions to which the person is a party.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, ~~additionally further~~ comprising ~~the step of~~ calculating an average scaled numeric value or a scaled alphanumeric value associated with the person.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the legal action comprises a class action suit.

16. (Currently amended) A computerized system for managing risk associated with a legal action, the system comprising:

a computer server accessible with by a network access device via a communications network; and

executable software stored on the server and ~~executable on demand~~, the ~~software when executed~~ operative with the server to cause the system to:

receive information identifying a person as at least one of: a party to a legal action and an amicus curiae of the court;

receive information relating to details of the legal action;

structure the information received relating to details of the legal action according to predetermined criteria;

generate a scaled numeric or alphanumeric value indicative of an amount of risk associated with the legal action ~~with a computer processor operatively attached to the computer storage~~; and

generate a report comprising the scaled numeric or alphanumeric value and ~~the~~ at least a portion of the structured information upon which the scaled numeric or alphanumeric ~~number value~~ value is based.

17. (Original) The computerized system of claim 16 wherein the information is received via an electronic feed.

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18. (Original) The computerized system of claim 16 wherein the network access device is a personal computer.

19. (Original) The computerized system of claim 16 wherein the network access device is a wireless handheld device.

20. (Currently amended) Computer executable program code residing on a computer-readable medium, the program code comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

receive information identifying a person as at least one of: a party to a legal action and an amicus curiae of the court;

receive information relating to details of the legal action;

structure the information received relating to details of the legal action according to predetermined criteria;

generate using a computer processor, a scaled numeric or alphanumeric value indicative of an amount of risk associated with the legal action ~~with a computer processor operatively attached to the computer storage~~; and

generate a report comprising the scaled numeric or alphanumeric value and at least a portion of the structured information upon which the scaled numeric or alphanumeric ~~number-value~~ is based.

21-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein a person involved in a legal action comprises at least one of a legal person or natural person, or a combination of both.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein a legal person additionally further comprises a governmental entity.

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26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the suggested action comprises appearing as an amicus curiae of the court in a litigation.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the risk comprises legal, regulatory, financial and reputational exposure.